

Appl. No. 10/773,971
Docket No. 9520
Amdt. dated April 8, 2008
Reply to Office Action mailed on December 10, 2007
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 1-31 are currently under consideration. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

Claims 1-21 are proposed to be cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 22-23 are amended to recite a convolutedly wound paper product. Support for this amendment is on p. 3, line 25 of the specification.

Claims 22-23 are amended to recite that there is at least one roll of convolutedly wound paper product and at least one roll-support adapter. Support for this amendment is found in claims 22-23 as previously presented.

Claim 22 is presented to recite that the adapter container is unitized by overwrapping the adapter container. Support for this limitation is found on p. 5, lines 32-34 of the specification.

Claim 23 is amended to recite that the adapter joined to the package by adhesive bonding. Support for this amendment is found on p. 5, lines 31-32 of the specification.

Claims 24 and 29 are new and recite that the kit comprises a plurality of rolls of a convolutedly wound paper product. Support for this amendment is found on p. 4, line 9 of the specification.

Claims 25 and 30 are new and recite that the wound paper product comprises a width and spaced apart lines of weakness generally transverse to the width. Support for this amendment is found in original claim 15.

Claims 26 and 31 are new and recite that at least one kit component comprises an indicia. Support for this amendment is found in original claim 18.

Claim 27 is new and recites that the adapter container is unitized by overwrapping the adapter container and the package with shrink wrap. Support for this amendment is found on p. 5, lines 33-34 of the specification.

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Claim 28 is new and recites that the adapter container is unitized by overwrapping the adapter container and the package with stretch wrap. Support for this amendment is found on p. 5, lines 33-34 of the specification.

It is believed these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter. Consequently, entry of these changes is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Interview Summary

Applicants thank Examiner Bui for taking the time to interview with the Applicants' Attorney via telephone. Two particular embodiments of the Applicants' invention were discussed. Amendments were proposed to the independent claims 22 and 23 to distinguish them from the prior art.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103(a) Over U.S. Pat. No. 3,834,636 or U.S. Pat. No. 5,464,170 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,770,118 or GB 2 380 178

The claims stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 3,834,636 (hereinafter "Linick") or U.S. Pat. No. 5,464,170 (hereinafter "Mitchell") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,227,360 (hereinafter "Kessler") or GB 2 380 178 (hereinafter "Lomas") or U.S. Pat. No. 2,678,129 (hereinafter "Spector"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection on the grounds that, as presented, Linick or Mitchell in view of Kessler, Lomas or Spector fail to satisfy the requirements for a showing of obviousness as established by Graham v. John Deere Co., 381 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966). The four Graham factors are: (1) the scope and content of the prior art; (2) the level of ordinary skill in the prior art; (3) the difference between the claimed invention and the prior art; and (4) objective evidence of nonobviousness.

Claims 22 and 23 recites, *inter alia*, a kit comprising a package, a convolutely wound paper product, and a roll-support adapter. The roll-support adapter is provided in an adapter container, and that the wherein the adapter container is either: (1) unitized by

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over-wrapping the adapter container and the package with (Claim 22), or (2) adhesively affixed to the package (Claim 23).

Applicants respectfully direct the Office's attention to the photographs (attached) of the Applicants' claimed invention. Clearly, the claimed invention cannot be packaged in a manner described by Lomas. Lomas clearly describes packaging the free gift or other item within the package rather than attaching it to the outside of the package. (Lomas, p. 1).

Further, while Mitchell and Linick describe adapters for a roll of toilet tissue having a diameter which is greater than conventional toilet tissue rolls, neither Mitchell nor Linick describe a kit comprising a roll and an adapter together. The Office refers to Spector to provide motivation for one of skill in the art to adhesively attach a container to a package. Applicant respectfully submits that, as presented, the claims currently recite rolls of paper product. Thus, one of skill in the art would not rely on Spector to provide motivation to make the claimed invention due to the dissimilarity of the products described in Spector and the product recited in the claimed invention.

Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that the *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established and that Claims 22-29 are nonobvious over the cited prior art.

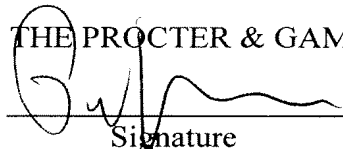
Conclusion

In light of the above remarks, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of this application, entry of the amendments presented herein, and allowance of Claims 22-31 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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